



Butte County Library

County Librarian's Report For the Library Advisory Board

May and June, 2015

Administration – Mel Lightbody, County Librarian

PLEASE NOTE: The biggest news for the library is the change in operating hours for the Chico branch. These began in July and have created huge back-logs and busyness for the Chico library. We will be reporting out more information from Administration's viewpoint for your next report.

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As the LAB knows from the May meeting the City of Chico did not renew their \$100,000 commitment to additional hours in Chico. In the June budget hearings, the County Board of Supervisors voted to accept County Administration's recommended budget which did not include additional money to backfill the cost of the additional hours.

Overall, the library budget received a slight increase in operating funds. In addition, the library department had two roofs funded this year. Chico will be getting a new full roof and Gridley a partial one. The Chico Friends and the Paradise Friends also funded improvements. Paradise will be getting more parking because of an arrangement between the Masonic Hall and Butte County. The Chico Friends of the Library are funding several space enhancements to the Chico branch.

Overall Highlights:

- Two new roofs for library buildings
- Literacy's Jim Gill Tour reached nearly 700 people
- Paradise Library is going to have a driveway between the parking lot and the next-door Masonic Hall, courtesy for PFOL. More parking at Paradise branch, finally.
- Chico's Summer Reading Challenge has over 1,000 children participating
- Oroville library card holders continue to grow each month.
- 85 people signed up for Summer Reading at Gridley's Labor Camp

Literacy Services -- Heather Tovey, Literacy Coordinator

May and June 2015 were quite busy for Literacy Services!

- May 1st, 2nd and 3rd Butte County Library, Literacy Services with Shasta Public Library Literacy hosted the Adult Learner Leadership Institute from the California Library Literacy Services (California State Library). An institute created for adult learners who struggle with their reading and writing by adult learners who have experienced a similar journey. The program encourages advocacy, leadership and communication that result in a very emotional and powerful weekend for those adult learners to attend (please see the

attached letter from one of our own Butte County Library, Literacy Services learners-name removed for privacy).

- May 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Butte County Library, Literacy Services has been contributing a member of the Touchpoints curriculum/advisory committee that was launched in Sacramento in early May. This is a State Library, Early Learning project in partnership with Touchpoints and the accumulation of approx. 15 months of work. The project piloted a new Touchpoints curriculum to a select few individuals which included Butte County Library (County Librarian and a Children's Librarian) who were asked to provide invaluable feedback. We are 1 of only 7 libraries Statewide selected to participate in this project that aims to improve and enhance the way families are served in the public library.
- Jim Gill tour May 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th had the Literacy Team dancing about the County with a workshop and a concert for each library community. Thanks to carefully planned promotion and collaborations (including branch libraries!) we reached many families with Jim's expertise on playful early literacy/learning. Be sure to thank First5 for supporting this great event at your libraries.
 - Oroville=61 concert 9 workshop
 - Gridley=95 concert 13 workshop (this includes 7 children)
 - Chico=369 concert 19 workshop
 - Paradise=151 concert 9 workshop
- May-June the Literacy Coach attended:
 - Children's Fair
 - Hooked on Fishing
 - 2 Summer Reading Kick-offs at the Paradise and Oroville libraries
 - 12 Preschool site Storytimes
- June 12th and 13th the new Literacy Specialist attended a meeting for new coordinators provided by the California Library Literacy Services (California State Library) as well as a Tutor training conference.
- June 15 Literacy staff and Paradise Library staff conduct a KinderGo! a library style school readiness event at the Paradise Branch Library.
- June 26th (morning) Literacy Services offered a summary of the Jim Gill tour of Butte County for the First5 Children and Families Commission.
- June 26th (afternoon) Literacy Services was asked to participate in an Early Learning poster session at American Library Association conference in San Francisco with our Survival Travel Guide for those library staff new to providing Storytimes and KinderGo which were both part of a grant called Yearn to Learn.

Paradise Library -- Susie Serrano, Branch Librarian

- Paradise Friends of the Library (PFOL) had a booth at the annual Chocolate Fest and is a beneficiary of the fundraiser that will purchase new books for the Summer Reading Program.

- 151 people came to see Jim Gill at the Masonic Lodge next door thanks to Literacy Services and **Kimberlee Wheeler** for organizing and promotion.
- The Butte Fire Safe Council with Ready Raccoon visited a Friday Storytime (Wheeler)
- New low shelving in Children's area that will expand the item shelving thanks to Chico and Oroville branches for letting us utilize it.
- 38 Book club members from 9 different Paradise Book Clubs attended the first annual Book Club Social. Sponsored by PFOL (**Karen Rigby-Alexander** and **Susie Serrano**)
- 35 children made a craft at the library booth at Party in the Park (**Rhoda Boyd**)
- 53 people enjoyed a performance by Dawn Harms who grew up in Paradise and has a career ranging from chamber musician and concertmaster to violin soloist and conductor. She is a member of the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and records regularly at Skywalker Studios for movies and video games among other wonderful musical adventures. Sponsored by PFOL.
- 121 people attended the Paradise Summer Reading Kickoff at the Masonic Lodge thanks to the PFOL, Round Table Pizza, Bouncers Paradise (Bounce House), and the Literacy Coach. (Wheeler, Serrano, **Lindsey Lipski**, **David Jewell**, **Thu Tran**, and lots of great volunteers)
- KinderGo! A Kindergarten readiness program for families with children starting kindergarten in the fall. Tovey and Lipski from Literacy Services helped us with the planning and the ½ day activities. 5 Families also got to board a school bus and talked to a driver while the bus was parked at the library. PFOL sponsored the event. (Serrano and Wheeler)

Chico Library -- Brenda Crotts, Branch Librarian

- Created two standing work stations for **Kristine Macalalad** – one in work room & other in the Children's room to be used by all staff serving youth.
- Testing the 3D Printer; open house scheduled; will have 3 programs a month – 1 for teens, 1 for adults and 1 for tweens.
- May 30th Spring Fling for women Veterans was a success. Put on in Chico branch by VA Northern California Health Services. Women were treated to massage, nail colors, hair styling, make up, photographing the makeover, pain clinic, stress clinic, breakfast & social time, 19 vendors with information to share, catered lunch, line dancing. About 90 attendees ranging in age from 28 to 92.
- Teens continue working on video production/editing & an open house is planned for August.
- Summer Reading is a big hit. Over 1000 registered participants; 600 attended Wild Things and Uni and her Ukulele packed the meeting room.
- **Brenda Crotts** attended an ALA preconference on financial education for Veterans. Crotts, Macalalad and **Ricardo Ramirez** attended ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco.

Oroville Library -- Sarah Vantrease, Branch Librarian

- The number of card holders increased *every month* in fiscal year 2014-15, for a net gain of 2494 registered users in Oroville over the year, ending with **24,347 total**.
- May, Mental Health Awareness month, brought **8 health and wellness events** to the Oroville library, with topics ranging from mental health issues in the Hmong community, to creating a balanced diet on a budget, to youth-led responses to the bullying crisis.
- The Oroville library's best-attended programs for each age group were:
 - Babies & Preschool: Jim Gill concert in the library
 - School-Age: Summer Reading Kickoff party, featuring "Strung Nugget Gang"
 - Teens: "Read to the Rhythm" craft workshop
 - Adults: Film showing of *Still Alice*

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Gridley, Biggs, Durham libraries -- Cynthia Pustejovsky, Branch Librarian

Infopeople workshop

- Gridley, Durham & Biggs staff attended "Digital Literacy: Working with Technology in Rural Libraries" held at the Gridley branch

Gridley:

- Ramirez represented the Library at Gridley's kick-off Farmers Market May 19, issued 40 library cards and handed out library surveys
- **Christy Cooke-Williford** presented a story time at Gridley's last E-Head Start class and invited preschoolers to participate in and attend Summer Reading programs
- 10 end-of-year class visits, 192 Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd grade students
- Summer Reading – Sign-ups to date 124, less than last year. From what parents are telling us, school-aged children are involved in more activities this year. Weekly programs planned, attendance is the same as last year.
- At the request of a Special Ed Summer School class, **Meybel Van Wagenen** adjusted the Thursday morning story time routine for June to include activities and crafts for the 10 students. Diana Pontarola, teacher, and her aides were very pleased with the programs and the opportunity the students had to interact with the other children.

Labor Camp:

- Summer Reading – Sign-ups to date 85. Van Wagenen has worked with the two preschool and summer school programs to schedule a weekly story/craft times for each program.
- Several families have visited the branch in June, preschool graduates have come with their blue book bags.

Durham:

- Cooke-Williford and DFOL members had a booth at the annual Parade and Picnic day. Christy provided crafts and handouts about Summer Reading and other branch activities. DFOL collected library's surveys
- Summer Reading – Sign ups to date 92. Same experience as Gridley, children are involved in a variety of activities. Weekly programs planned, attendance is the same as last year.

Biggs:

- Summer Reading – Sign-ups to date 18, less than last year. Crafts are planned and children are given and encouraged to attend Gridley’s program calendar.

Outreach -- Oliver Allen, Outreach Coordinator

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No report. **Oliver Allen** is on vacation.

5/2/15 ALLI
Adult learner
dictation ...

The literacy program is important to me because it helps ~~me~~ people like me who is unable to read + write become part of the community.

My teacher inspires me to be a better student. She teaches me 4 days a week for 2 hours a day. We read books, do spelling tests and helps ~~me~~ me with improving my writing and memory skills.

Without the literacy program people like myself would ^{not} have any place to go for help.